

REMARKS

I. Status of the Application

Claims 1-12 were pending in the application prior to this amendment. Claims 1-12 stand rejected.

With this amendment, claims 1 and 5 have been amended. No new matter has been added by this amendment. Support for this amendment can be found at least on pages 21-24 of the original Specification.

II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,523,696 to Saito, et al. (hereafter, “Saito”).

Applicants submit that Saito does not teach or suggest at least “sending operation information to the controlled device, the operation information including a shifting history of a cursor displayed on the control panel, wherein the shifting history represents a list of buttons depressed by the cursor”, as recited in previously presented claims 1 and 5.

The Office Action asserts that Saito teaches the above recitation. Specifically, the Office Action asserts that “[t]he succession of each operation selected by the user (e.g. a user selects a “play” button from the displayed control panel, and a minute into the program, the user selects a “fast forward”, “reverse”, etc) has sent a history (more than one button selection) of where the cursor has been due to the ability of the system to highlight a particular button and via the selection of each button displayed on the control panel.” (Office Action, page 2)

Saito teaches only transmitting a command in response to the clicking of an icon as shown in figure 31. Saito, however, provides no teaching or suggestion of sending a list of buttons ID’s that have been depressed by the cursor.

Nonetheless, independent claim 1 has been amended for further clarification. Amended claim 1 recites *inter alia*, “a control unit that produces operation information ... wherein the operation information includes a shifting history of a cursor displayed on the control panel, and wherein the shifting history includes identification information of each button depressed by the cursor in a single operation.” Independent claim 5 has been amended to recite similar features to amended claim 1 as described herein.

Applicants respectfully submit that Saito does not teach or suggest the above identified features of amended independent claim 1.

Saito discloses that “suppose that a user clicks the icon i206 for “play” in the home page of FIG. 31 (step s4507). This icon i206 for “play” is set in correspondence to the RTSP “PLAY” command by hyperlink, for example. Thus the command data...is transmitted from the first AV connection device 204 to the second AV connection device 205....” Saito does not teach or suggest including, in the shifting history, identification information of each button depressed by the cursor in a single operation, as required by at least claim 1.

In view of the above, independent claims 1 and 5 are believed distinguishable over Saito for at least the reasons discussed above.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) is respectfully requested.

Applicants have chosen in the interest of expediting prosecution of this patent application to distinguish the cited documents from the pending claims as set forth above. However, these statements should not be regarded in any way as admissions that the cited documents are, in fact, prior art.

Applicants have not specifically addressed the rejections of the dependent claims because Applicants submit that the independent claims from which they respectively depend, either directly or indirectly, are in condition for allowance as set forth above. Accordingly, the dependent claims also are in condition for allowance. Applicants, however, reserve the right to address such rejections of the dependent claims should such be necessary.

Applicants believe that the application as amended is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims and allowance of this application.

AUTHORIZATION

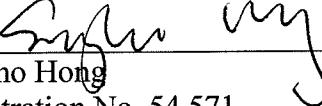
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-4798. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No 13-4500, Order No. 1232-4798. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: April 15, 2008

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